States/UTs	Cities	Number of ALDS
Madhya Pradesh	Bhopal	1
Maharashtra	Mumbai	21
Maharashtra	Pune	6
Maharashtra	Nasik	1
Rajasthan	Jaipur	2
Tamil Nadu	Chennai	16
Uttar Pradesh	Lucknow	1
Uttar Pradesh	Agra	2
West Bengal	Kolkata	11
Kerala	Ernakulam	1
TOTAL		119

Dual pricing policy for LPG

2230. SHRI ANAND SHARMA:
SHRI DATTA MEGHE:

Will the Minister of PETROLUEM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering dual pricing policy for LPG in the country; and

(b) if so, the details of the policy and the proposed date of its commencement?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR: (a) and (b) At present, subsidised domestic LPG is marketed by the distributors of the four public sector oil marketing companies (OMCs), viz., Indian Oil Corporation Limited (IOCL), Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited (BPCL), Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited (HPCL) and IBP Company Limited. Domestic LPG is partly subsidized by the Government and partly by the oil companies. During the year 2004-05, the total subsidy burden was Rs. 9,830 crores. This Ministry has recently written to the State Governments seeking views on restricting the subsidy on domestic LPG to only BPL families.

The Government has also allowed Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC) and GAIL India Limited (GAIL) to market LPG produced by their fractionators subject to certain terms and conditions. With a view to operationalizing the mechanism, the matter was recently reviewed in the

Ministry and ONGC and GAIL were asked to give their proposals. The proposals received from them are under examination in the Ministry.

New oil refineries

†2231. PROF. R.B.S. VARMA:
SHRI RUDRA NARAYAN PANY:
SHRI S.M. LALJAN BASHA:
SHRI E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN:
SHRIMATI KUM KUM RAI:

Will the Minister of PETROLUEM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government are planning to set up more refineries in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the amount likely to be spent by Government for setting up refineries under this scheme; and

(d) the progress made so far in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR: (a) to (d) The refineries sector has been delicensed since June, 1998 and a refinery can be set up, anywhere in India by private or public sector enterprises depending on the promoters' assessment of its viability. It is not the Central Government but public and private sector enterprises who consider proposals for setting up refineries. Public Sector Undertakings may consider setting up a refinery in accordance with the decision-making authority delegated to them by Government vide Department of Public Enterprises' Office Memorandum No. DPE/11(2)/97-Fin. dated 22-7-1997.

Indian Oil Corporation Limited, Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited and Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited have proposed to set up the four new refineries, completion of which is likely to spill over beyond the Tenth Five Year Plan. The details of locations, anticipated cost and progress of these refineries are given in the Statement (*See* below).

In addition, Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Limited (ONGC), through its subsidiary Mangalore Refinery and Petrochemicals Limited (MRPL), have initiated efforts to consider setting up an export-oriented refinery in the coastal belt of Andhra Pradesh near Kakinada. ONGC/ MRPL are also exploring the feasibility of setting up a well-head refinery

† Original notice of the Question was received in Hindi.